

REMARKS

The above amendments are presented to conform the claims to United States practice and to place the application into better form for examination.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa B. Pendleton
Registration No. 35,459

Customer No. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111
CLT01/4638683v1

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 331632014 US
Date of Deposit March 24, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner For Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Grace R. Rippy